

Central Presbyterian gets new look

Community Affairs File
 NOV 5 1983
 The congregation of Central Presbyterian Church has announced a \$200,000 remodeling project is nearly complete, an indication of its determination to remain in its present location at Seventh and Mulberry streets.

It was the group's decision to support downtown Terre Haute and to cooperate with Indiana State University in its effort to improve and beautify the Seventh Street entry to the campus.

Central Presbyterian is Terre Haute's first organized church, established May 17, 1828, resulting from the merger of First Presbyterian with Second Presbyterian on Dec. 3, 1879. The united congregations met in the present building which was constructed in 1863 by First Presbyterian.

The church was enlarged and remodeled in 1883. The north and south transept towers were added, the sanctuary floor inclined and the pipe organ installed. In 1954, the old manse behind the church was razed and replaced with the present educational building providing classrooms, church offices, a lounge and an elevator.

Extensive remodeling was also undertaken in the years following 1965. This included the installation of new pews, a new study for the minister, air conditioning, a new organ console, new kitchen, a church library and a complete renovation of the organ.

In 1978, the church celebrated its 150th year of continuing service in the community.

The current project reinforces the building and provides a face lift both inside and outside. New carpeting, new wiring and electrical work, new lighting fixtures, additional air conditioning for the fellowship hall, a new restroom for the church school, additional insulation and some tuck-pointing have made the structure not only more attractive but weather tight and energy efficient.

Outside a drive-up canopy and a planting area south of the church have been designed to create a south entrance to enhance and blend with the Oakley Plaza at Seventh and Cherry now under construction as a new entrance to the ISU campus.

Plans for a dedication program will be announced by the Rev. John Chironna when the restoration has been completed.

Churches WU
Central Presby.



Church celebration ends

Churches T H

The final celebration of the Sesquicentennial year of the Central Presbyterian Church, 715 Mulberry St., was a dedication of the bronze Register of Pastors Plaque that contained the names of all the pastors who have served the church. The plaque was presented to the congregation by Elder George Nichols and received and dedicated by Rev. John Chironna, the present church pastor. Participating in the ceremony was dedication chairman Mrs. Fred Rubey. Chuck's

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Churches

Sunday is homecoming at Central Presbyterian

TO MAY 14 1978

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Church members and visitors will meet 10:30 a.m. at the church to hear a sermon by guest minister, the Rev. Frederick L. Black III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Black Jr., 427 S. 31st St.

A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall following the service to honor the Rev. Black who is the pastor of the Bethlehem United Presbyterian Church of Clinton, N.J.

The celebration continues Wednesday with a social hour in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. A banquet is scheduled to follow at 6:30 in Hulman Civic University Center.

The evening's program includes a candle lighting ceremony with the Rev. John Chirona Jr., pastor of the church, assisted by the Communicants' Class of 1978; a skit directed by church members Charles and Jean Shutt; and a look at the church's past by Frances Failing, George Nichols, Lillian Laybold and Kirby Smith.

The final occasion for celebration is scheduled for Dec. 3 when a plaque with the names of all ministers who have served at the church from 1828 to 1978 will be dedicated in the Narthex of the church.

The history of the church begins with the Rev. David Monfort, pastor of a Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. When he came to Terre Haute, he was the first minister to permanently settle in the town.

He founded the what is now the present Central church and served as pastor from 1838 to 1829.

According to the church records, a group from this first church organized the Baldwin Presbyterian Church in 1849 and later changed its name to the Second Presbyterian Church. Both churches combined in 1879 and became the Central Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Perry served as minister from 1880 to 1884. The current church building was constructed in 1883. In 1954 the old two-story wood manse back of the church was raised and replaced with the present educational building containing Sunday school classrooms, church office, Schmidt Memorial Lounge, a pullman kitchen and an elevator.

In the years since 1965, extensive remodeling was done. This included repair of exterior brick and new pews in the sanctuary and choir loft. A new study for the minister, air conditioning, carpeting, a new organ console and redecorating throughout the church were included in the project.

Sunday members of the church will remember along with their pastor that "Central Presbyterian Church was born 150 years ago to fill the spiritual needs of a community of devout believers who were pioneer settlers in Terre Haute...and has been lovingly built by a reverent people for the purpose of expressing and communicating the everlasting truth of God."

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PRESBYTERIANS TO HOLD CENTENARY

Churches (T.H.)
Terre Haute Church Is One Hundred Years Old This Week—Program For Different Events.

Anna Bowles Wiley
Anna Bowles Wiley.

This week marks the centennial of the Central Presbyterian church in Terre Haute. There will be an appropriate celebration throughout the week, each day being marked with some unusual program. Starting Sunday, May 13th, a musical program with Mrs. H. A. Salchert as soloist, singing the offertory, "Love Never Fatteth," and the sermon by the Rev. Edward W. Abbey, D.D., minister of the Second Presbyterian church in 1874-1879, now of Smithtown, Long Island. The evening program will present the Rev. L. O. Richmond D.D., minister of the Central Presbyterian church, 1910 to 1918, now of Shelbyville, Ind.

Monday a reception for the officers of the church and its organizations with their wives and husbands in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Abbey and Dr. and Mrs. L. O. Richmond will be given by Miss Helen Condit at her home, in which Dr. and Mrs. Blackford Condit were host and hostess at so many of the social functions of the Second church during Dr. Condit's pastorate. This reception will be at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Fellowship Meeting.

Tuesday there will be a fellowship meeting, at which representatives from the downtown city churches will be present and offer congratulations. The Presbyterian guild and the Young Woman's Business society will act as hostesses for a social hour, which will be staged in the Sunday school rooms after the program.

The Rev. G. Isaacs, minister of the First Congregational church, representing the Congregational churches; Rev. Carl E. Kiewit, representative of the Reformed churches; Rev. J. A. Steierwald, minister of the Evangelical churches; Rev. Roy B. Deer, for the Baptist churches.

Rev. W. H. Todd, the United Brethren; Rev. John Sulger, from the Protestant Episcopal churches; Dr. Walter Rice, from the Methodist churches; Andrew T. Spears, from the Christian churches. The Mesdames H. A. Salchert and Mae Boyll will sing a duet.

Wednesday evening will be the historical service at 7:30 in the evening. Following special music an organ program and music by the Washington Avenue church orchestra, Mrs. E. E. Ramsey will read the church history and Judge S. C. Stimson will give reminiscences.

Judge Stimson was a member of the First, Second, Central and Washington Avenue Presbyterian churches.

Mrs. George Moorhead will sing "In My Father's House Are Many Mansions." Then on Thursday night the birthday celebration will take the form of a dinner at the Shrine temple, served at 6:30 o'clock.

Judge Sidney B. Davis, a life long member, will say the grace. After the dinner there will be a program which includes a number, "Spring," by the string ensemble of the Washington Avenue church. Greetings will be given by Rev. F. Leroy Brown of the Washington Avenue church and from Rev. A. R. Brown of the Westminster church. Sheldon Kord, violin; Miss Adeline Schulmeyer, piano, from the latter church, will play "Traumerel."

Prof. John B. Wisely will preside at the unveiling of the bronze tablet in honor of the ministers who have served the churches now united in Central church during the 100 years of Presbyterian history. Professor Wisely will make the presentation address, as chairman of the commemoration tablet committee.

Miss Helen Elizabeth Stimson, great granddaughter of Rev. Archibald Cameron Allen, minister of the First church from 1851 to 1853, will unveil the tablet. Miss Stimson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Cameron Stimson.

The Central church quartette will sing and Rev. B. W. Tyler, D. D., will preside at the impressive candle lighting ceremony. At 7:30 o'clock on Friday evening Rev. John Timothy Stone, D. D., LL. D., minister of the Fourth Presbyterian church, Chicago, and president-elect of McCormick Theological seminary, will deliver an address on "Planning for the Future." Clyde Bennett, baritone, will sing and there will be special organ and string music.

The Women's Share.

Saturday Miss Helen Condit will be hostess for an afternoon tea at her home for the women of the congregation of the Central Presbyterian church. Sunday, May 20, will close the program, when the whole day will be given over to special programs.

The Condit memorial chimes will be used by Dean Armstrong, organist of this church for years. These chimes play "For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed: Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen." The memorial prayer will be recited at the morning service also.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon wreaths will be placed on the graves of the Rev. Thomas P. Gordon and Rev. Matthew G. Wallace in Woodlawn cemetery, and that of Dr. Blackford Condit in Highland Lawn.

The evening service will be mostly given over to music, in which is included an offertory, "Grand Aria," by Miss Dorothy Berkowitz, piano, and Dean Armstrong, organ.

When Terre Haute as she stands today was not much more than a cow pasture, back in 1823, when church worship was accomplished in log buildings which acted jointly as school houses, the Presbyterian church of this city and county was founded. In May 17 the first meeting was held and the Rev. David Monfort began his ministry here.

In the rude benches of the building on Mulberry street between Fourth and Fifth streets, a part of which is now to be seen in a dwelling facing Mulberry and on the east side of the alley, were seated to hear that first sermon, Samuel Young, ordained elder.

Other early members were James Beard, Andrew Armstrong, Robert Wallace, Joseph S. Wallace, Benjamin Hayes, Stacey Winter, James Hite and others, who served as elders in various years from that date until 1851.

The trustees of the church were William C. Linton, John Britton, James Wasson, Samuel Young.

The organization of this church was like many others in those early days. The minister, Rev. David Monfort, had to apply himself to other avocations for a livelihood until May 16 of 1833 when the congregations again called him to the pastorate and voted that he be paid \$200 a year in regular quarterly payments, so that he might be free from worldly cares and avocations.

In 1835 a note in the history points to a distracted state of the church and a meeting was called to reorganize the session. In October 3, 1844, "the new meeting house was dedicated," is a note in the same record with no further explanation.

A second Presbyterian church was organized in December of 1848 as the Baldwin Presbyterian church with the name changed later in 1868. The Rev. William M. Cheever was the first minister called. This building stood at the corner of Fifth and Poplar, a part now of the Bigelow home.

The Rev. Blackford Condit and the Rev. Edward W. Abbey were noted ministers of that church which afterward consolidated in 1879 with the First Presbyterian into the present Central Presbyterian church with location where it stands at present.

The Rev. Edward Abbey was engaged by the Second church as supply in 1874 and afterward called as pastor in 1875. He is one of three living pastors remaining who have served here. The Rev. L. O. Richmond, who resigned nine years ago to go to the Philippines to take charge of the Church of All Faiths, and the Rev. B. W. Tyler, who has served here for nine years, coming from Logansport.

Historical Reflection.

The history of Presbyterians in Indiana began back in 1825, when veteran missionaries in the service such as Rev. Samuel Rannels, Rev. Samuel Robinson; Rev. James McGready and Rev. Thomas Clellan, all members of the Transylvania presbytery of Kentucky, made excursions up the valley of the Wabash.

One of these missionaries in giving his account of these early travels in behalf of religion states that "I passed the night in the woods above Terre Haute without human company and with no light except that of lightning." While still another told of spending a day seeking a ford, by which to cross Big Raccoon creek.

When the first church was established Terre Haute had but about 200 population, "with no religious order, but a great disposition to hear preaching," to quote one of those early missionaries, who spoke of the Bible society, which some of the citizens had formed to meet at the court house on Sunday. Another man writing of Terre Haute in 1926 stated that:

"The town of Terre Haute is a beautiful village, composed of white houses, situated on the left bank of the Wabash river, but no place for the gospel," until the Rev. David Monfort came in 1827 and formed a church the following year.

Over

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Churches in Central Presby.

There were ten members, Samuel Young and Margaret Young, his wife, from Honey Creek; Samuel Ewing and Mary Ewing, his wife; James Beard and Jane Beard, his wife; John McCulloch and Margaret, his wife, from New Hope; Mrs. Phoebe Monfort, from Bethel Church, Ohio, and Mr. O. Dibble. Three men, William C. Linton, John Britton and Captain Wasson, were chosen trustees, and Samuel Young and James Beard elders.

The Rev. Monfort was a native of Pennsylvania and educated at Princeton Theological seminary. He began his pastorate at Franklin, Ind. The local first church was without a pastor for four years after his resignation when Rev. Michael Hummer was elected in 1833.

Early in December of 1848 the Baldwin or Second church was organized. This was called the New School Presbyterian church, and the Rev. William M. Cheever was the organizer. Joseph Miller and John B. Soules were chosen as elders. This church was organized in an upper room of a small brick building at the southeast corner of Third and Ohio.

Upon the consolidation of these two churches neither would concede to the name of "First church," so the Central was organized and continues today.

Tablet Erected.

The tablet which will be erected in commemoration of the organization of the first church established in the city of Terre Haute and in honor of the pastors who served during its first 100 years will read as follows:

This tablet is erected in commemoration of the organization of the first church established in the city of Terre Haute and in honor of the pastors who served during its first one hundred years.

First Presbyterian Church.

Organized May 17, 1828.

David Monfort 1828-1829
Michael Hummer 1833-1833
Matthew G. Wallace .. 1836-1850
Archibald C. Allen 1851-1853
Isaac N. Shannon 1854-1855
Thomas P. Gordon 1857-1865
George Morrison 1866-1869

James E. Lapsley 1870-1872
Alexander Sterrett 1872-1879

Second Presbyterian Church

Organized 1848. Dissolved 1850.

Richard V. Dodge 1846-1849

Baldwin Presbyterian Church.

Organized Dec. 31, 1848.

William M. Cheever 1849-1856
Joseph G. Wilson 1857-1861
Henry W. Ballantine .. 1861-1862
Daniel E. Bierce 1863-1865
Henry S. Little 1866-1868

Name Changed to

Second Presbyterian Church.

Jan. 8, 1868.

Blackford Condit 1868-1874
Edward W. Abbey 1874-1879

United Under the Name of

Central Presbyterian Church.

Dec. 3, 1879.

Thomas Parry 1880-1884
George R. Pierce 1884-1892
Rice V. Hunter 1893-1896
William Torrance 1896-1900
William H. McCaughey 1900-1909
Louis O. Richmond 1910-1918
Buford W. Tyler 1919- * *

This will be dedicated at the centennial celebration on May 17, 1923.

HICKMAN MARKER RECALLS HISTORY

T.H.T. — 7/9/26
Boulder Placed Where Widely
Known Minister First Heard the
Call to Service.

Clergy (T.H.)
On a small roadside site near Ladoga, several days ago, was unveiled a marker which indicates the spot at which Dr. William H. Hickman, for many years Terre Haute pastor, received the call to the ministry, and after many weeks' struggle relinquished his career in the medical profession to preach the gospel.

The Tribune has been furnished the following narrative, which will be read with interest:

William Howard Hickman was born in Kentucky of slave holding parents, an orphan at three years of age. An older brother, James Hickman, despised slavery and brought him, when six years of age, to Crawfordsville, in 1849. James Hickman was a well known contractor and builder. William was a member of the old Center Presbyterian Sunday school, Mary Hovey's class. Harley Restine, Dr. Ensminger and others were members of this class. W. H. enlisted April 19, 1861, civil war, Company G, 10th Indiana, at the court house in Crawfordsville. James Watson, captain. Colonel Manson got him in the army under age. Later he enlisted in the 39th Indiana and after the Stone River battle the regiment was changed to the 8th Indiana cavalry. He was under General Kilpatrick with Sherman to the sea, was wounded and a prisoner twice, lying in Libby prison when Richmond fell. The last time he was captured in North Carolina by Wade Hampton's cavalry and marched on foot, 285 miles, to Richmond. He was discharged in July, 1865, and entered the seminary in Russellville that fall. After two years he entered upon the study of medicine with Ben Miller under Dr. Jefferson Miller, Ben's father, at the old homestead on Hall creek, south part of Montgomery county.

Call to Service.

He came under conviction when ready to go to medical college, that he ought to surrender his life to God. A desperate struggle for many days followed this conviction till one day in June, 1867, as he rode horseback going to Russellville he surrendered his life and experienced a great joy. He felt he must have a broader education. He entered Old Asbury, now DePauw, and graduated in 1873. He joined the Northwest Indiana Conference, Methodist Episcopal church, that fall, and was stationed at West Lafayette. He married in 1875 Eliza Hougham, daughter of Dr. J. S. Hougham, member of the faculty of Purdue university. After serving some of the largest churches in Indiana as pastor, then as presiding elder, he was elected president of Clark university at Atlanta, Ga. After several years there he resigned and was elected chancellor of DePauw university. Coming to that institution in a critical hour of its life. After six years he resigned to become president of the board of the Old National Chautauqua of New York, and lived in Jamestown, N. Y.

While east he was pastor of the First Congregational church of Jamestown. His wife, broken in health, he resigned all official work and returned to Indiana. The last five years of his active ministry he served Trinity church of Terre Haute and after securing grounds for a new plant for this church he resigned last October at the conference in Crawfordsville, having served church and educational work for fifty-two years.

Dr. Hickman's ministry was characterized by aggressiveness. He was a great builder as well as creating endowment funds; he built the first church at Frankfort; the first church in Terre Haute, besides many small churches; he rebuilt Clark university and added many smaller buildings and improvements; he built Minshall laboratory for DePauw, one of the best science buildings in the state of Indiana, and added many improvements to the university. When he went to chautauqua he immediately called the board to clear up indebtedness and raise \$32,000 the first meeting of his board. He built the hall of philosophy of chautauqua, sending to Canada to get timbers that would square 12 inches, 80 feet long, to support the roof.

Secular Honors.

He built the great Commercial building which is the center of the commercial life of that institution. He added the two wings to the Hall of Christ and finished that splendid building which will stand for centuries. He moved and rebuilt Kellogg hall, where the National W. C. T. U. was born. He introduced the system of Sunday offering in Chautauqua, which has added thousands of dollars every year for scholarships or betterments of the institution.

Dr. Hickman has been honored by his church. Three times sent to the general conference and twenty years on the board of education, the grand army has also honored him by electing him three times as department chaplain of Indiana and twice as the delegate of Indiana at the national encampments.

The prohibition party of Indiana nominated him for governor and later U. S. senator. In both instances he had a large vote, leading the ticket in most instances.

In all these years he looked upon the spot where he gave up his life to God to direct as a kind of holy place. The trustees of the Citizens bank of Ladoga having control of the woodlands joining the Haw creek road on the south side as you go east, gave to Dr. Hickman a lot 20 feet square, which he located as near the spot as possible, where this change in his life occurred. He had this lot deeded to his children, and on July 7, 1926, a lot of friends with all the family, Mary Hickman Burk, Emma Ruth Taylor, with her four children, William R. Hickman and wife and Dr. John S. Hickman and wife and son, were present at the unveiling of a large boulder on the spot above indicated. The two grandsons, Frederick Hickman and Hickman Taylor, removing the stars and stripes from the stone. Dr. Leazenby, of Hammond, delivered the address. Rev. G. S. Howard, of Crawfordsville, presiding, were part of the program.

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A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall following the service to honor the Rev. Black who is the pastor of the Bethlehem United Presbyterian Church of Clinton, N.J.

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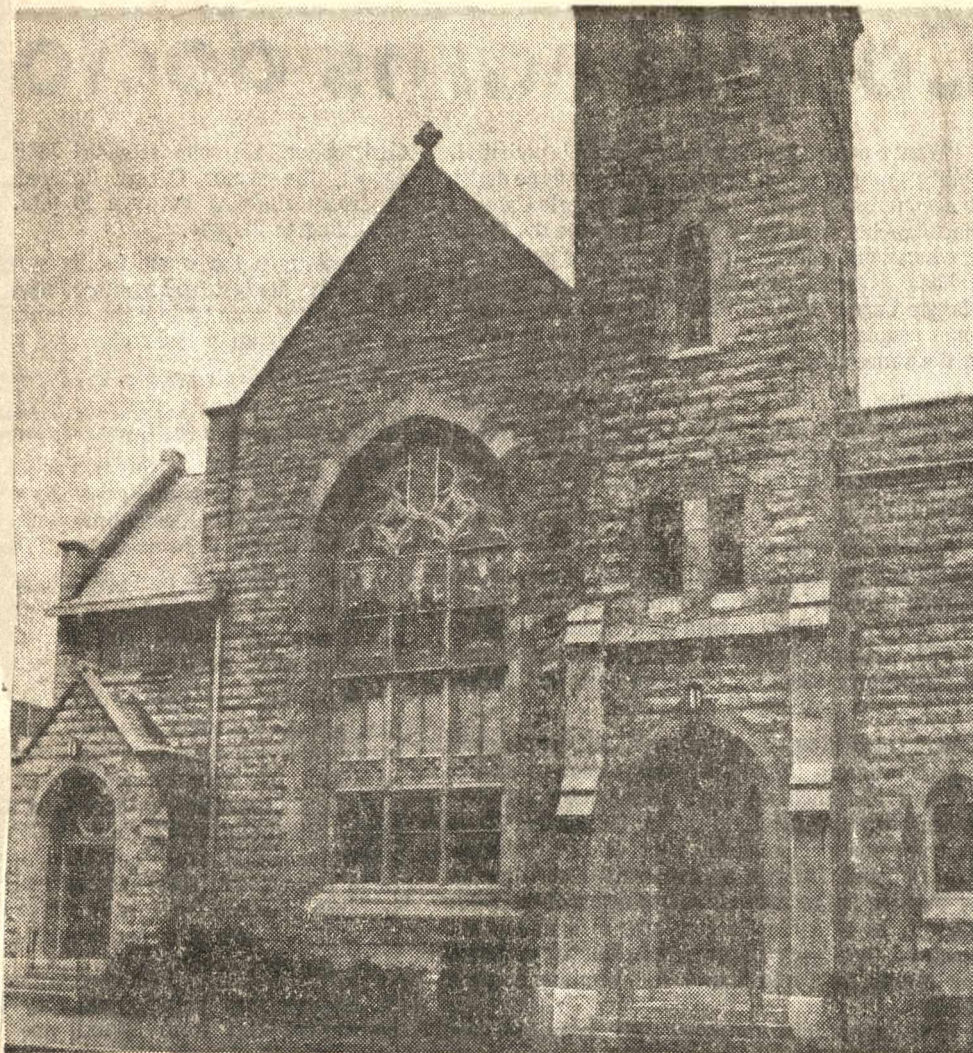
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FOUNDED 150 YEARS AGO — The Central Presbyterian Church was founded by the Rev. David Monfort of Cincinnati, Ohio, 150 years ago. Church members celebrate the sesquicentennial with homecoming activities 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The church was one of the first to be established in the community. House of Photography

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This picture does not go with this article. This picture shows Centenary Methodist Church!

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Churches WU
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Presbyterians Observe 150 Years Here

By GLADYS SELTZER
Star Staff Writer

The sesquicentennial of the witness of the Presbyterian Church in Terre Haute will be celebrated with a Homecoming Service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday in the Central Presbyterian Church and a banquet Wednesday night at Hulman Civic University Center.

According to announcement of the celebration by the committee, the guest minister for the service will be the Rev. Frederick L. Black, III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Black, Jr., 427 S. 31st St. Black retired six years ago after serving for 30 years as organist at Central Presbyterian and is the music critic for the Terre Haute Star.

Rev. Black is pastor of the Bethlehem United Presbyterian Church at Clinton, N.J., and this will be the first time since he was ordained that he has returned to preach at the local church.

A reception Sunday in the Fellowship Hall will follow the service and will honor Rev. Black and the friends and families of Central Presbyterian.

The final celebration of the sesquicentennial year will commemorate the date of Dec. 3, 1879, the day that the two Presbyterian churches of Terre Haute united as the Central Presbyterian Church. At that time, the First Church building at 715 Mulberry St. served as its home.

The Rev. John Chironna, Jr., pastor of Central Presbytrian since 1961, explained that according to Blackford Condit's history of early Terre Haute, the first permanent minister to settle in Terre Haute was the Rev. David Monfort from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, and the force which set in motion the establishment on May 17, 1828, of Terre Haute's first organized church. This church is now Central Presbyterian.

This year, Rev. Chironna said, on

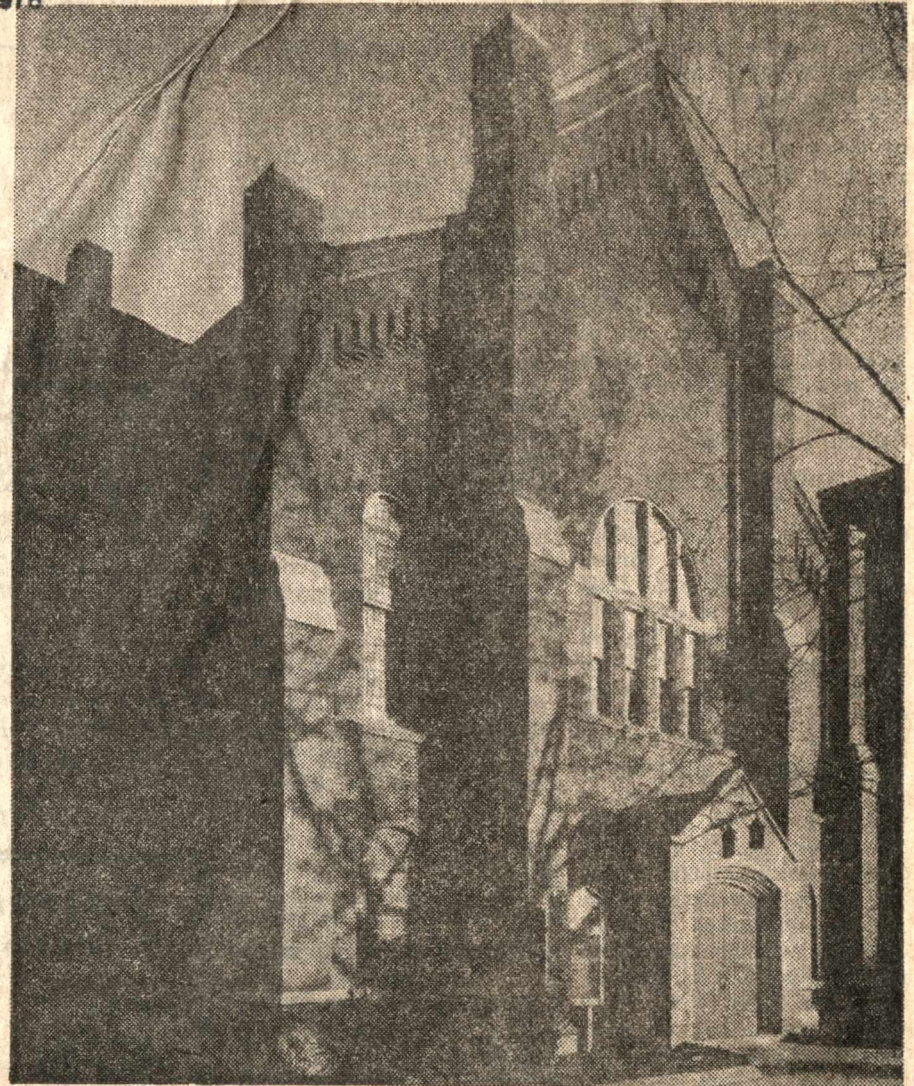
Dec. 3, the event will be commemorated by the dedicating of a plaque in the Narthex of this church. The plaque, which at present lists the names of ministers from 1828 to 1928, will have added the names of Central's ministers from 1928 to 1978. The dinner Wednesday night will recognize the date "on which the church began, May 17, 1828," according to the records.

The sesquicentennial dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be preceded by a social hour at 5:30 p.m. in the Central Presbyterian Fellowship Hall. The communicants' class of 1978 will assist Rev. Chironna with the centennial candle lighting ceremony. Allison, Jill and Shelly Shutt will sing "You Light Up My Life" and will be accompanied by Lewis Sego II. The blessing will be asked by the Rev. Albert Tull, assistant pastor, and Rev. Chironna will give the benediction.

During the dinner program Frances Failing, George Nichols, Lillian Laybold and Kirby Smith will present "Reflections of the Past." Charles and Jean Shutt will direct a humorous skit in which they and other members of the congregation will take part.

For Homecoming Sunday, banners constructed by all church school classes will decorate the sanctuary. The golden age members of the church will serve as greeters and the punch and cookies at the reception will be served by members of the United Presbyterian Women.

In a message written for his congregation for the occasion, Rev. Chironna noted that "Central Presbyterian Church was born 150 years ago to fill the spiritual needs of a community of devout believers who were pioneer settlers in Terre Haute... and has been lovingly built by a reverent people for the purpose of expressing and communicating the everlasting truth of God."



LINKING PAST AND PRESENT — Central Presbyterian Church at North Seventh and Mulberry streets represents 150 years of Presbyterian witness in Terre Haute and this picture shows the front Seventh Street entrance. The congregation will observe the celebration with a special service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday and a banquet Wednesday night.

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Central Presbyterian set to celebrate 150 years

T MAY 12 1978

"Blest be the tie that Bind" is an old hymn that has been sung in many churches over the years, and it is the song that appears in the sesquicentennial program of the Central Presbyterian Church.

This Sunday church members begin a three-part celebration as they honor 150 years of church history and the "fellowship of kindred minds."

A homecoming, scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Sunday, initiates the celebration. Guest minister for the service is the Rev. Frederick L. Black, III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Black Jr., 427 S. 31st St.

A reception will follow the service to honor the Rev. Black who is pastor of the Bethlehem United Presbyterian Church at Clinton, N.J.

The celebration continues Wednesday, May 17 with a Sesquicentennial Dinner to be 6:30 p.m. at held Hulman Civic University Center. Theme for the banquet is "Then, Now and Forever." The communicants' class of 1978 will assist the Rev. John Chironna Jr., pastor of the church, with the lighting of the centennial candle. Allison, Jill and Shelly Shutt will sing "You Light Up My Life" and will be accompanied by Lewis Sego II. The Rev. Albert Tull, assistant pastor, will ask the blessing and Rev. Chironna will give the benediction.

The evening's program includes a presentation by Frances Failing, George Nichols, Lillian Laybold and Kirby Smith of "Reflections of the Past." Charles and Jean Shutt will present a "You Are There" skit.

The final event of the sesquicentennial celebration is scheduled Dec. 3 and will be the dedication of a plaque which lists the names of ministers who served at the church from 1828 to 1978.

The sesquicentennial offers an opportunity to reflect on the church's life which is made up of the lives of those who founded and attended the church over the years.

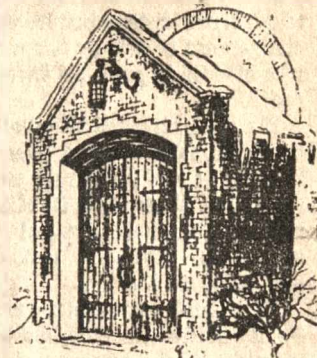
According to Blackford Condit's history of early Terre Haute, the Rev. David Monfort from the Presbyterian church in Cincinnati was the first permanent minister to settle in Terre Haute and served from 1828 to 1829 as the minister of the First Presbyterian Church which is now the Central Presbyterian Church.

According to church records, a group from the First Presbyterian organized the Baldwin Presbyterian Church in 1849 and later changed the name to the Second Presbyterian Church. In 1879, the two churches combined to form the Central Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Perry served from 1880 to 1884 as the first pastor of central. The church building which now stands at Seventh and Mulberry streets was built originally in 1863 and was remodeled in 1883.

In 1954, the old two-story wood manse back of the church was raised and replaced with the present educational building containing Sunday school classrooms and church office among other things.

Since 1965, extensive remodeling was done on the church and included new pews, choir loft, carpeting and air conditioning.



Rev. Chironna summarized the history of the church in a letter to its members. He writes "Central Presbyterian Church was born 150 years ago to fill the spiritual needs of a community of devout believers who were pioneer settlers in Terre Haute, Indiana. The present members can be very proud of their church—the first organized church in the community."

ACCEPTS CALL TO CENTRAL CHURCH

Rev. John Goodpasture Coming
From Mendota, Ill., to Succeed
Rev. L. O. Richmond.

Int 2/25/42

Rev. John W. Goodpasture has accepted the call as pastor of the Central Presbyterian church, succeeding Rev. L. O. Richmond, who is retiring because of ill health, according to announcement made Wednesday. The new pastor will assume his duties here on Palm Sunday, March 29.

Rev. Goodpasture comes to Terre Haute from Mendota, Ill., where he was pastor of the First Presbyterian church for eight years.

Born in Peru, Ind., he made Indianapolis his home until about 11 years ago. He received his A. B. degree from the Central Normal College at Danville, Ind., and his B. D. degree from the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Chicago.

His first pastorate was in Highland, Ind., where he remained for three years before accepting the call to the Mendota, Ill., church.

He is married and has one daughter, Alice Ann, five years old. Mrs. Goodpasture was formerly Miss Helen M. Piersol, of Jamestown, Ind. She is a graduate of the Central Normal College at Danville and of the Oxford College for Women, Oxford, Ohio.

Rev. Goodpasture has held several important positions in the presbytery including those of moderator, chairman of the general council and at present is chairman of the committee of Christian education for the Ottawa presbytery in Illinois.

Has Many Interests.

Actively interested in young people he was registrar for the Rockford summer conference at Rockford, Ill., for several years, served as district Boy Scout commissioner and was a leader in various other youth activities.

Rev. Goodpasture also takes an active part in the activities of the community, is a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Knights Templar and served as district chairman of the Red Cross board in his district.

He explained that both he and Mrs. Goodpasture had been favorably impressed with Terre Haute as a city and with the Central Presbyterian church. Realizing the importance of the challenge which is offered Rev. Goodpasture explained that he believed that great possibilities were in store and that they were ready and anxious to meet the challenge for a greater field of Christian endeavor.

Rev. John W. Goodpasture, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Mendota, Ill., for the past eight years, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Central Presbyterian church here and will assume his duties there on Palm Sunday, March 29. He succeeds Rev. L. O. Richmond, who is retiring from the ministry.



REV. JOHN W. GOODPASTURE.

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Community Affairs File

Central Presbyterian celebrates its 150th anniversary

Photo by American Visuals



By Frances E. Hughes

A year ago the Central Presbyterian Church observed its 150th anniversary with a week-long celebration.

This congregation lays claim to being the first organized church in the city.

The organization of the Presbyterian Church in Terre Haute actually started when the Rev. Nathan B. Darrow, a pioneer missionary, was sent out by the Connecticut Missionary Society and visited Terre Haute in 1816. Another missionary, the Rev. Orin Fowler, made a tour as far north as Fort Harrison in 1819. In 1822, the Rev. Charles C. Beatty made a missionary tour through this region under the auspices of the General Assembly. He preached in the ballroom of the Eagle and Lion Tavern.

In 1820, another missionary came across the Wabash River by way of the Hopewell Church.

Arrival of the first permanent minister to settle here, the Rev. David Monfort, was in 1827. He came from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, and established the Presbyterian Church here May 17, 1828. Chosen and ordained as elders then were Samuel Young and James Beard.

The first congregation included Young and his wife, Margaret; Samuel Ewing and wife, Mary; John McCulloch and wife, Margaret; James Beard and wife, Jane; Mrs. Phoebe Monfort and O. Dibble.

After the resignation of Monfort because of illness in his family, the Rev. Michael Hammer came here as pastor. There were 16 members at the meeting May 16, 1833, five years after the founding of the church.

There was then division in the church and some members withdrew and held services in an old brick schoolhouse on the northwest of Fifth and Walnut streets.

In 1836, the Rev. Matthew Wallace became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and was instrumental in building a frame church on the northwest corner of Fifth and Poplar streets for his congregation. He was succeeded by the Rev. Archibald C. Allen, the Rev. Isaac N. Shannon and the Rev. Thomas P. Gordon. Gordon served from 1857 to 1865, and during that time a new brick church was built on the southeast corner of Seventh and Mulberry streets. This is the present church.

Gordon was succeeded by the Revs. George Morrison, James E. Lapsley and Alexander Sterrett. Sterrett continued his ministry until the union of his congregation with that of the Baldwin Presbyterian Church (later Second Presbyterian Church) on Dec. 3, 1879.

The Baldwin Church had been organized by the Rev. William M. Cheever on Dec. 31, 1848, and was composed of a colony from the Congregational Church, which had 16 members. This Congregational Church, it has been said, was organized when there was a division in the church in 1834.

Joseph Miller and J. B. L. Saule were elected elders of the Baldwin Church and were ordained by Cheever. This pastor was succeeded at the Baldwin Church by the Revs. Joseph G. Wilson, Henry W. Ballantine, Daniel E. Bierce and Henry S. Little. The Baldwin Church was named the Second Presbyterian Church in 1868, when the Rev. Blackford Condit became the minister. He served for six years and was succeeded by the Rev. Edward Abbey, who served from 1874 until the merger in 1879.

When the churches merged the name was changed to Central Presbyterian Church which it has remained ever since. The Rev. Thomas Perry was chosen pastor of this new church and served from 1880 to 1884. During his pastorate, the church building was remodeled.

After the resignation of Perry in 1884, 65 members were given letters for the purpose of organizing the Washington Avenue Pres-

fifty years ago

Field Day For Printers

The printers have reaped a harvest during this primary. With close to 200 candidates in the field, all having cards and other printing done, it is safe to say that never before in any political campaign has there been so much money spent for printing as in this primary. It is good business, too, for long ago, guided by their experience in doing political printing on "tick," and thereby losing much money, the printers nowadays have a strict C.O.D. rule in this kind of work.

Democrats Ponder Probable Outcome

The Democrats are wondering what is going to become of them next Tuesday, and who is going to be nominated for mayor. The Democratic county organization is behind Wood Posey, but the organization is not very popular with the rank and file, if reports can be believed. What the organization officials would like to know is whether this dissatisfaction will drive normal Democrats to "Jim" Henry or Donn Roberts.

Council Refuses Funds For Tax Ferret

The county council refused this week to make an allowance of \$50,000 asked for the services of Joseph B. Workman, tax ferret, although the allowance would have had no effect on the tax rate. The money paid the tax ferret is given him out of that converted into the county treasury as a result of his work, and if he collects no sequestered taxes he gets no pay.

The action of the council was not a surprise as it has been known for some time that a quiet effort was being made to do away with Workman's services. Much of this opposition was aroused when it became known that after working for the county several years on a 35 per cent basis the county commissioners made a new contract calling for 50 per cent of the amount of taxes collected as his share without any publicity.

Attacks Made For Dirty Campaign

The dirtiest, most unscrupulous, most unprincipled municipal campaign Terre Haute has ever known -- from a Republican standpoint -- will come to an end when the polls close next Tuesday night. There has been more mud thrown in an anonymous way than ever before. The methods that were employed in this campaign were originated by the Ku Klux with its whispering campaigns and its "clothes pin" publications, villifying those who opposed them.

The slanders have all been directed towards Chester Kelly, Republican candidate for mayor. His own clean record has thus far kept them from assailing him directly, but the anonymous circulars and cards which have been distributed surreptitiously throughout the city have been aimed at those who are known as his supporters -- Mayor Davis, City Attorney Miller Davis, John Jensen, former county chairman, attorney Frank B. Miller, and the Rev. William Todd. No telling who will be the next object of these anonymous attacks.

AG Plans Primary Supervision

The fine Italian hand of Senator "Johnny" Hewitt is seen by many in the effort of the Attorney General to butt into the primary next Tuesday, to see that we have an honest election. The senator is allied with the Hays-Brocksmith-Hoffa-Mann political combine, and as he can't be here in person to take a hand in the preliminaries it is believed that he has used his influence with Governor Leslie to bring about this latest action to discredit Terre Haute. None of the officials who have to do with securing honest elections, Prosecutor Littlefield, Police Superintendent Smock, or Sheriff Dreher have appealed to the state authorities to prevent fraud at the polls and they claim to be able to handle the situation.

Federal Agents For Elections?

One of the silliest stories extant is that Federal agents of the department of justice are to be here next Tuesday to supervise the primary election. The Federal department of justice has nothing to do with a city election. It has jurisdiction only where Federal officers are voted for, but the silly story finds many believers, strange as it may seem.

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Beltone

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

Monday, September 10

Pork Chopette
Whole Kernel Corn
Kale
Rye Bread
Margarine
Sugar Cookie
Milk
Coffee/Tea

Tuesday, September 11

Tuna & Noodle Casserole
Tossed Salad w/Dressing
Pickled Beets
White Bread
Margarine
Sliced Peaches
Milk
Coffee/Tea

Wednesday, September 12

Roast Beef w/Gravy
Mixed Vegetables
Carrot/Raisin Salad
Wheat Bread
Margarine
Vanilla Pudding
Milk
Coffee/Tea

Thursday, September 13

Lasagna
Broccoli
Cinnamon Applesauce
Italian Bread
Margarine
Blueberry Pie
Milk
Coffee/Tea

Friday, September 14

B.B.Q. Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Hot Roll
Margarine
Cookie
Milk
Coffee/Tea

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byterian Church and built a church on the southeast corner of Sixth Street and Washington Avenue, which is still being used by that congregation.

Succeeding pastors of the Central Presbyterian Church, who served from four to nine years each, were the Revs. George R. Pierce, Rice V. Hunter, William Torrance, Louis O. Richmond, from 1909 to 1918 and from 1934 to 1942; Buford W. Tyler, John Goodpasture, Willard V. Lampe, Osborne L. Schumpert and the present pastor, the Rev. John Chironna Jr., who came to the church in 1961.

In 1873, the Baldwin Church, named for the first president of Wabash College, celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Rev. Condit delivered the address. In 1928, the centennial of the church was celebrated with a full week of worship, meetings and activities. Then, a year ago, the 150th anniversary was observed again with a Sesquicentennial Dinner on May 17 at Hulman Civic Center with 192 in attendance. A Homecoming Sunday was the preceding Sunday, May 14.

At the Sesquicentennial Dinner, there was a lighting of Forever

Candles by the congregation and these were then stored away to be lit again on the 200th anniversary.

The church building, built in 1863, was enlarged and remodeled in 1883, the north and south transept towers added, the auditorium floor inclined and the pipe organ installed.

In 1954, the old two-story wood manse back of the church was razed and replaced with the present education building containing Sunday School classrooms, church office, Schmidt Memorial Lounge, a Pullman kitchen and an elevator.

In the years after 1965, extensive remodeling was done. This included repair of exterior brick and new pews in the sanctuary and choir loft. A new study for the minister, air-conditioning, carpeting, a new organ console, and redecorating throughout the church were a part of the project. The old kitchen was removed and a new one built on the south side of the fellowship hall, which also received new lighting.

A church library was established where the old kitchen had been, and the organ received a complete overhaul.

There are now approximately 600 members of this church.

First Congregational Church welcomes new minister

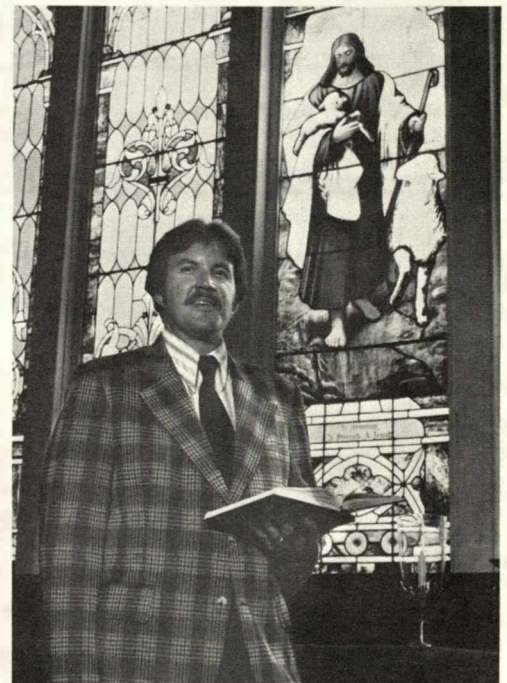
On Sunday September 9, First Congregational Church begins its fall program, moving from the present summer schedule to the regular schedule which has the Adult Current Issue Seminar and choir rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. and Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

As First Congregational Church approaches this significant day in its church year, it also officially welcomes its new Senior Minister, the Rev. R. Boyd Carter and his family, Monica and Richard. The Carters arrived in Terre Haute in June. Immediately after arriving, their settling in was delayed by a trip to California on behalf of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. Carter serves in the

National Association as director of the Senior High Pilgrim Fellowship program.

Carter comes to First Congregational Church, having most recently served the Plymouth Congregational Church in Racine, Wis. and prior to that, the Mayflower Congregational Church in Grand Rapids, Mich. Prior to serving at the two above mentioned congregations, Carter was a member of the Central Illinois Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church and has served a number of Methodist churches including churches in Hampton, Sumner, Oregon and Filmore, Illinois, and also, the St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Florissant, Mo. In the Methodist Church, Carter has held several positions on the conference and national level. He has also directed a number of conference work camps throughout the United States. Carter has been active in the communities where he has served, having served as a volunteer fireman, a chief of police, an alderman, a county councilman and has served on several Boards of Education, Citizens for Better Education Committees and has served as a Director on the Board of the YMCA, Mental Health Association, Big Brothers and has been an active Rotarian. Carter holds a lifetime teaching certificate in the state of Illinois, and at one time taught on the campus of the Florissant Valley Junior College.

Mrs. Carter is a professional in her own right, also holding a lifetime teaching certificate, not only in the state of Illinois, but also in several other states and has recently



The Rev. R. Boyd Carter

Photo by Orth

accepted a position as Reading Coordinator at Otter Creek Junior High School.

The Carters have one son, who is a sophomore at North Vigo High School, an active student and an active athlete.

First Congregational Church welcomes the Carters to Terre Haute and welcomes Carter to the pulpit of First Congregational Church.

LIONS CLUB PURCHASES EQUIPMENT FOR UNION HOSPITAL

Improved diagnostic treatment for patients with eye problems will soon be available to Terre Haute area patients, the result of a joint effort of the Terre Haute Lions Club and Union Hospital.

James Morley, administrative director of Radiology at Union Hospital, announced recently the Lions Club had purchased a new B-Mode Ultrasound machine for the hospital, the only one of its kind in the Wabash Valley.

"This new equipment will allow us to detect foreign bodies, tumors, detached retinas and badly traumatized eyes," Morley said. "Until now, we have only been able to detect metallic foreign bodies and could not detect wood or glass."

Morley said the equipment is portable and could be used on patients in the emergency room. He noted that only a radiologist or ophthalmologist would use the equipment.

The gift is the latest in a series of cooperative ventures between Union Hospital and the Terre Haute Lions Club. A year ago, club members purchased a Digital Biometric Ruler, used in the treatment of cataract patients.

The newest piece of equipment was purchased by the Lions Club with proceeds from last year's Rose Day Sale.

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Aftermath was wretching to Kennedy

Editor's note: Thoroughly whipped in the 1961 invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs, which was inspired and staged by the CIA, the Kennedy administration suffered Camelot's first defeat. Peter Wyden, in the last of five excerpts from "The Bay of Pigs: The Untold Story," says Bobby Kennedy was afraid the United States would be considered a "paper tiger."

**Last of a series
By Peter Wyden**

As Washington tried to come to terms with the Bay of Pigs defeat, Walt Rostow of the National Security Council was concerned about Robert Kennedy, whom he hardly knew. The attorney general showed much more than his brother the president how distraught he was. He refused to accept the debacle and was needlessly upsetting the other advisers.

RFK had warned the presidential circle harshly that they were to make no statements that didn't back up the president's judgments all the way. He warned the advisers "to act or be judged paper tigers in Moscow."

While waiting for the arrival of Jose Miro Cardona and the rest of the exiled Cuban Revolutionary Council, Rostow watched the president in the rocking chair of the Oval Office, looking at the headlines of the Washington News trumpeting the final collapse of the Bay of Pigs invasion.

The president "let the paper crumple onto the floor without a word."

In Miami, Miro argued with presidential aides sent to fetch him and his colleagues to the White House that the invasion still might be successful if the exiles were given more planes. If not, he said, the members of his exiled council should be permitted to join their men on the Cuban beaches.

"It is this which I request," the anti-Castro leader said, "this which I beg."

Antonio de Varona, another leader of the exiles, was bursting with anger. Sputtering, he listed his grievances. The CIA had bypassed the council. It had ignored all the resistance groups. He had been deceived during his visit to the training camps. Now the invasion forces had run out of pilots, yet 30 experienced Cuban fliers were in Miami, eager for action. American planes and Marines should be sent in. Why not? Castro had Soviet tanks and technicians. If the Americans evaded their responsibility, who would trust them again in Latin America or anywhere else?

Manuel Ray, former Cuban interior minister, documented how the CIA ignored sabotage plans readied by the resistance ("For over a month we have had a tunnel under the Havana electric power installation"). Promises of military support were broken ("We were told that 10,000 to 15,000 men would be available"). The council was impotent ("Action is taken in our name . . . without our knowledge"). Ray still had faith in President Kennedy, but he insisted that "those who really run things begin to assume the responsibility" and that the council "abandon pretense of command, go to Cuba and fight as soldiers."

While the council waited in the Cabinet room, Adolf A. Berle and Arthur Schlesinger told the president how the Cubans had been detained under something like house arrest. Kennedy, "exceptionally drawn and tired," said he was shocked; the CIA had left him uninformed about that.

No matter how tragically the invasion had ended, Kennedy said, the American commitment to Cuban freedom stood firm. He assured the council members that he shared their grief and reminded them that he too had seen combat. "I lost a brother and a brother-in-law in war," he said. "I know something of how you feel." He seemed especially stung that Castro had called the exile brigade "mercenaries." Acting again like a PT-boat commander, he asked whether any of the Cuban leaders had pictures of their soldier sons.

Dr. Antonio Maceo, a noted surgeon, wondered how the president knew about the three council members' sons in the brigade. Greatly touched, he took out his billfold and showed the president

a passport-sized photo of Antonio Jr., a grave, pale teen-ager. The president held up young Antonio's picture and asked, "Does this look like a mercenary?"

Schlesinger thought he "had never seen the president more impressive" and noted that "in spite of themselves, his visitors were deeply moved." Soon Kennedy joined them for sandwiches and tea on the second floor of the White House to discuss rescue operations. Schlesinger was struck by the thought that "Kennedy was prepared to run more risks to take the men off the beaches than to put them there."

Meanwhile, the chief radio operator, who had been brought to the U.S. aircraft carrier Essex by the CIA to run communications between the fleet and Washington and had been installed in Captain S. S. Searcy's cabin, asked permission to join the captain on the bridge.

"Sure, make yourself at home," Searcy said.

The radio man obviously had something on his mind but could not say it. He put his elbows on the railing and held his head in his hands.

"What's the matter?" asked the captain.

The man turned around slowly: "Captain, this is the first time in my life I have ever been ashamed of being an American."

Searcy said, "Chief, I feel pretty much like you do."

Both men turned toward the sea and stared at the glistening water.

Of all the orders Searcy had received that week, the last jarred him the most. He was to assemble all orders and logs covering the time of the operation -- the operation order, the deck log, the navigation log, the combat information center log, the engineering log, everything -- and personally burn them. Sighing, he called for the Marine who served as his messenger.

Together they gathered the files and the bulky ledgers and took them below, next to the engine room, to the incinerator. The Marine opened the chute. The captain threw the books and papers into the fire and watched them disappear. Not a word was spoken.

Searcy was "disgusted, upset and plain mad." To himself he said, "This is a big damn cover-up."

While the sea rescue effort was in progress, the air base at Happy Valley in Nicaragua was "like a graveyard," thought Eddie Ferrer, one of the fliers for the exile force. He was sitting on his bunk when two Americans appeared and silently handed each Cuban airman a Toshiba transistor radio. Ferrer was taken aback. He had expected no farewell present, yet this was what the radios were obviously meant to be. He looked at the little radio in his large hairy hand, momentarily nonplussed. Then he asked for a second one. He would give one to each of his sons back in Miami. The boys might as well get a souvenir out of his nine-month absence from home.

On April 23 the first 50 Cuban airmen, pilots and ground personnel were flown back to Miami.

At the arrival hangar only customs and immigration officers greeted the airmen. The officials seemed "disrespectful." They had a hard time getting across to the milling, impatient Cubans that each man had to exchange his khaki shirt for a civilian sport shirt. "Security" made it important that they not look military. Each arrival also had to be issued a temporary "parole paper" to admit him into the country.

Eddie Ferrer had his men line up in formation and called them to attention. He told the head of the immigration men: "If there is anything you want from these people, let me know. And don't give me any bulls--t. I'm tired of seeing you people treating us like dirt."

The immigration men apologized. Everybody changed shirts and got his admission paper. There were no farewell ceremonies. The men were driven to a house in southwest Miami in a yellow school bus. This time there was no zigzag route for "security." Cars with Cuban drivers were waiting to drive them home. Three days later Ferrer was told to report to the Cuban exile office, where a Cuban handed him \$300 in cash. A month after that he received a mimeographed letter advising him that he was entitled to no further "compensation". There was no letterhead and no signature. The envelope was blank.

The Terre Haute Tribune

Central Presbyterian Church

Observes Anniversary Sunday

5-16-33

The Central Presbyterian Church will observe its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary at the Sunday morning service. The center section of the church has been reserved for the members who attended the one hundredth anniversary, according to Rev. Willard Lampe, the pastor.

The women's Association of the church also will observe the 125th anniversary of the church at its special guest day luncheon. The speaker for the session will be Dr. Robert Worth Frank, president of McCormick Theological Seminary, who will talk on the subject, "A New Look at the Church."

The first Presbyterian Church was established here May 17, 1828, and for many years the congregation of this First Presbyterian Church worshiped in a

frame building at the corner of Fifth and Poplar streets. The present site of the church at Seventh and Mulberry streets was acquired during the Civil War and the first part of the church was occupied for use in 1863.

On Dec. 3, 1879, the First and Second Presbyterian Churches were merged under the name of the Central Presbyterian Church.

A few years ago movement to build a new church was started. However the high cost of material slowed the movement and the congregation voted to remodel the present church. Following the work which gave both the exterior and interior of the church a new beauty but kept all the dignified, artistic lines of the building intact, the church was rededicated.

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Churches WV
Central Presby.

Church History Bound With City's Progress

By GLADYS SELTZER
Star Staff Writer

The history of the present Central Presbyterian Church is of course bound up with the history of Terre Haute itself, and represents the 150 years of witness of the Presbyterian Church in the community, according to its pastor, the Rev. John Chironna, Jr.

According to Blackford Condit's history of early Terre Haute, the Rev. David Monfort from the Presbytery of Cincinnati was the first permanent minister to settle in the town and served from 1828 to 1829 as the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, now Central Presbyterian.

According to the church records, a group from this church organized the Baldwin Presbyterian Church in 1849 and later changed its name to the Second Presbyterian Church. This Second Presbyterian Church then united with the First Presbyterian group on Dec. 3, 1879, to become the Central Presbyterian Church. The Baldwin Church was so named for the first president of Wabash College.

Blackford Condit was also a minister in the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church on and on the anniversary of its 25th anniversary Dec. 27, 1873,

he told the group that it was a matter of history that "while this region was a western wild full of savage men and savage beasts, the Presbyterian missionary was among them."

Thomas Perry served from 1880 to 1884 as the first pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church. The church building which serves the Central congregation at Seventh and Mulberry Streets was built originally in 1863 by the First Presbyterian Church. It was enlarged and remodeled in 1883, the north and south transept towers added, the auditorium floor inclined and the pipe organ installed.

In 1954, the old two-story wood manse back of the church was razed and replaced with the present educational building containing Sunday School, classrooms, church office, Schmidt Memorial Lounge, a pullman kitchen and an elevator.

In the years since 1965, extensive remodeling was done. This included repair of exterior brick and new pews in the sanctuary and choir loft. A new study for the minister, air-conditioning, carpeting, a new organ console and redecorating throughout the church were part of the project. A new



A PAGE FROM PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY IN TERRE HAUTE — Pictured here is the first or original Second Presbyterian Church built in 1848. The organization was dissolved Oct. 25, 1850, and the property subsequently sold to the German Methodist Church. The building was still standing on the original site, at the rear of the lot at the northwest corner of Fifth and Mulberry Streets as recently as 1928. The picture, taken by Martin Photo, will be a part of the display commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Presbyterian witness in Terre Haute at the Central Presbyterian Church where a special anniversary Homecoming Service will take place at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

kitchen was built. A church library was established and the organ completely overhauled.

Mrs. Nancy Rubey served as chairman of the sesquicentennial committee. Members were Frances Boyd, Lee Ann Clem, Carol Cook, Sandra Culp, Claude Curry, Frances Failing, John Hill, Ada Hodge, Jean

Hollar, Ruth Hoyt, Irene McDonough, Craig McKee, Lucille Merrill and Carol Modessitt.

Also, George Nichols, Ray Ostermiller, Nell Petzold, Kirby Smith, Charlotte Spurgin, Eileen Whalen, Loyal Wilson, Robert Wolfe and Doris Worthington.

The platform scale was invented in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

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CHURCH BIRTHDAY COMMITTEE — The Central Presbyterian Church, 125 N. Seventh St., congregation is planning the 150-year celebration of the church. Sesqui-centennial committee members are: first row, Mrs. Don Lowder, Lee Ann Clem,

Sandy Gulp, Nancy Rubey and Betty Perry; second row, Francis Failing, Carol Cook, Doris Worthington, Nel Petzold, Ruth Hoyt, Ada Hodge and Frances Boyd.

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Community Affairs File

I Hear the Tread of Pioneers

By John G. Biel

This year of 1956 marks the 250th anniversary of the organization of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America. It was in the year of 1706 that Francis Makemie—an Irishman, educated in Scotland, who served as an itinerate missionary up and down the Atlantic coast from New York to the Carolinas, preaching and establishing churches—secured the establishment of the first presbytery. It was popularly known, from its customary place of meeting, as the Presbytery of Philadelphia and Makemie was chosen as its first moderator. In that year there were but eight ministers composing the judicatory, only one of them—Jedediah Andrews—being a native born American; the rest being ordained in either Ireland or Scotland. In the first decade (1706-1716), the number of ministers increased to 17, and in the year 1716, due to the difficulty of travel and the wide territory to be covered, the Presbytery resolved itself into a Synod with four Presbyteries under its jurisdiction—Philadelphia, New Castle, Snow Hill and Long Island.

The first division of the Church occurred in 1741, the "old side" charging with heresy and disorder the "new side," whose zealous evangelists bitterly resented any criticism of the propriety or wisdom of their methods. The Synod of Philadelphia represented the "old side" and the Synod of New York represented the "new side." The "new side" was the more enterprising and prosperous, establishing, in 1747, at Elizabeth—and subsequently removed to Newark—the college of New Jersey, now the renowned and well-known Princeton University.

DURING the Revolutionary War the Presbyterian churches suffered severely. The devotion of their members to the cause of national independence was equalled by no other denomination. There was no racial or religious group, at that time, superior to them in intelligence, love of freedom, moral firm-

ness and capacity for political achievement. The form of the government of our nation is practically the form of the government of the Presbyterian Church—with such modifications as the civil need requires. John Witherspoon, president of the College of New Jersey (Princeton) was the only clerical member of the Continental Congress in 1776.

After the Revolutionary War in 1788, the two synods—the "new side," New York and the "old side," Philadelphia—got together and organized four synods with a General Assembly to serve as the supreme legislative, judicial and executive agency of the whole church. There were other divisions of this church from time to time—but that interesting history is not the object of this story.

In 1816—the year the little town of Terre Haute was settled—there was much more settlement in and around Fort Harrison than on the spot where the city of Terre Haute now stands. In that year, the Rev. Nathan B. Darrow came into this area as a Presbyterian missionary having been sent out by the Connecticut Missionary Society. In 1819, the Rev. Orin Fowler came to Fort Harrison and preached there.

IN 1822, a Presbyterian missionary by the name of Charles C. Beatty was touring this area and stayed for some time in Terre Haute, preaching both in the Ball Room of the Eagle and Lion Tavern and at the little Court House where every member of the audience brought a tallow candle to furnish the lighting. There was no organized Presbyterian group at that time. Reverend Beatty left a diary which has some interesting references to his stay in Terre Haute. In 1824, there was a plan for the interested people of Terre Haute and the interested people of Roseville—up on Raccoon Creek—to join together and hire a full-time

minister—whose salary was to be \$250 a year—but the plan never did materialize.

Reverend Beatty says in his diary that he preached in Terre Haute in 1824, but complained that his audience "was distressingly small—only two professors of religion were present who came eight miles and returned the same night." He came back, however, in 1826, "preaching at the court house" but says that Terre Haute "is still without any religious society" and complains that "the roads are but bridle paths through the woods and prairies." The next year, 1827—still not daunted by his lack of success so far—Reverend Beatty came back and says: "Rode to Terre Haute and preached in the evening. The next day rode to Big Raccoon. The next day, on account of the heavy rain, spent the whole day searching in vain for a ford across the creek."

Finally in May of 1828—which certainly justified the perseverance of the Rev. Mr. Beatty—several families banded themselves together to form the first Presbyterian Church in Terre Haute—which has now developed into the Central Presbyterian Church. The immediate spark for this organization was the Rev. David Montfort who had come here from the Cincinnati Presbytery in the Fall of 1827. He became the local minister and remained here for two years. The first members of this church were Samuel and Margaret Young of Honey Creek Prairie, Samuel and Mary Ewing, James and Jane Beard, John and Margaret McCullough, O. Dibble, James Wasson, John Britton and William C. Linton. Mrs. Phoebe Montfort—the wife of the minister—of course, joined them but she was not one of the local citizenry. Both she and her daughter and the Rev. Mr. Montfort moved away in 1829. Of these 12 original members, James Wasson, William C. Linton and John Britton were chosen as the first trustees and James Beard and

Samuel Young were chosen as the first elders.

THE PRESBYTERIANS were not the first to organize a religious group in the new town of Terre Haute—the Methodists claim that privilege and honor—but they were of the first. When the owners of the land on which Terre Haute was laid out—the Terre Haute Land Company—first platted the ground they made provision for a "church lot." Terre Haute had been visited by many itinerate preachers of various denominations before any organized group arose. The first religious services of any organized character held here—outside of family services in the individual log cabins—were the services conducted by Jonathan Stamper, the chaplain to the Kentucky Troops who came to Fort Harrison with William Henry Harrison, who preached at Fort Harrison as early as 1812.

The people of Terre Haute were slow to organize into religious groups but when they did, they built firmly and soundly. They founded no groups such as the "harmony of Rapp," the "atheism of Owen," the "deism of Kirkney," the "commune of the Shakers," the "agrarianism of the Newlights," the "city corporation of the Methodists at Mt. Carmel"—all of which were established during this very same period in the territory and counties just south of Terre Haute.

So, with the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the organized

Presbyterian Church of the United States, Terre Haute is able to celebrate the 138th anniversary of an organized Presbyterian Church in this community.

INDIANA ROOM

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Churches WV
Presby. General

Women Of Central Presbyterian Honor Older Members Of Church

May 19/48

On April 19, 1828, the first church of any denomination was organized in Vigo county. This church later through a merger of the First Presbyterian church and the Baldwin Presbyterian church became known as the Central Presbyterian church.

At the Woman's Association luncheon Monday the women of the Central Presbyterian church observed the 120th anniversary by

honoring the women members of the church who have been longest in membership there.

Places were marked for nine honor guests at the beautiful anniversary table which was covered with a handmade lace cloth. Centering the table was a three-tier cake, prepared by Mrs. H. A. Osborn, on the top of which was a glistening white icing log cabin, a replica of the early church, and on the sides were the dates, 1828-1948. Garden flowers, ivy and cathedral tapers in silver candlesticks completed the festive picture of this table. The room and other tables

were decorated with attractive arrangements of garden flowers.

The service was opened with the Twenty-third Psalm. The president of the association, Mrs. Alfred Johnson, gave a brief history of the early church. Miss Marguerite Van Arsdall and Miss Eleanor Johnson, in pastel dinner gowns acting as assisting hostesses, escorted the honor guests to the anniversary table and presented each with a rosebud corsage. First to be honored was Mrs. Charles Paddock, who is the oldest living member of the church before the merger in 1879. Miss Helen Condit was the second honor guest, having joined in 1886. In the early '90s Mrs. Clara Griffith, Mrs. J. C. Stimson and Miss Stella Webb became members. Mention was made of the other living members who were unable to attend, who had joined during this period. They were Mrs. Abbie Southard, Miss Mary Stimson, Mrs. Martha McKinney, Miss Margaret Glick. Filling three other seats of honor at the anniversary table were those who became members in 1894; they were Miss Cora Steele, Mrs. Alwert Balsley and Mrs. Charles Inman. Unable to attend were Miss Mary Ann Fisher, Miss Sarah Glick and Mrs. Ina McCoy. Mrs. Robert M. Britton, whose husband's grandfather, John Bretton, was one of the charter members and a trustee in 1828, completed the list of honor guests.

Mrs. Johnson then read a list of the pioneer parents and grandparents of women members of the church. Special mention was made of one of the first infants to be baptized in the early church. When Charlotte T. Condit joined the church by letter in 1832, she presented her son for baptism. Years later this little son became one of Central Presbyterian church's most honored pastors—the Rev. Blackford Condit. In the 120 years since the founding of this church in Vigo county at least 98 more churches of many denominations have been organized in this community.

Rev. Willard V. Lamp, pastor of the church, gave the reconsecration prayer and while Mrs. Charles Paddock cut the anniversary cake the guests sang "Faith of Our Fathers Living Still."

Circle 5, Mrs. Meda Himelick, chairman; Mrs. Roscoe Russell, co-chairman, served the delicious luncheon.

After the luncheon, Mrs. C. S.

Griffin of Westminster Presbyterian church and presbyterial president of Vincennes presbytery, gave a very fitting devotion in which she stressed the privilege the present membership has of carrying forward this work which has been entrusted to the church.

Mrs. Don Harris then introduced the speaker of the afternoon, Mrs. Jane Dabney Shackelford, whose subject was "Negro Literature." In her delightful manner, alternating gaiety and pathos, she presented, through poetry, the Negro in his America.

Mrs. Ted Cliff and Mrs. J. N. Hollis, representing the League of Women Voters, presented graphically to the association the great need for new buildings, preferably in the cottage plan, for the Glenn Home and requested the organization to write the commissioners, urging them to provide a more comfortable and sanitary home for these future citizens.

The meeting closed with the Misspah benediction.

Special Collections

Churches (WV)
Central Presby.

5511453
Star 5/16/53

Central Presbyterian Church to Mark 125th Anniversary at Services Sunday

The 125th anniversary of the Central Presbyterian Church will be observed Sunday, the morning worship service being set aside as a service of celebration and rededication, according to the Rev. Willard Lampe, pastor of the church.

Twenty-five years ago the 100th anniversary of the congregation was observed with a banquet and several other affairs. For the members of the church who attended the 100th anniversary banquet the entire center section of the church has been set aside,

and they will sit together in these pews.

+ + +

THE HISTORY of Presbyterianism of Terre Haute shows that in 1825 a Presbyterian missionary visited Terre Haute. In a letter about his visit he said that Terre Haute at that time had about 200 people but no religious society of any order.

However, according to his letter, "several gentlemen who wanted to hear sermons formed a Sunday reading meeting at the Court House and took turns reading printed sermons at these meetings."

The missionary is frank about the attendance at the meetings at which he preached saying "a few of the villagers attended."

On May 17, 1828, which was Sunday—a Presbyterian Church was organized, and for many years the congregation of this First Presbyterian Church worshiped in a frame building at the corner of Fifth and Poplar streets. The present site of the church at Seventh and Mulberry streets was acquired during the Civil War and the first part of the church was occupied for use in 1863.

On Dec. 3, 1879, the First and Second Presbyterian Churches were merged under the name of the Central Presbyterian Church.

+ + +

A FEW YEARS ago movement to build a new church was started. However the high cost of materials slowed the movement and the congregation voted to remodel the present church. Following the work which gave both the exterior and interior of the church a new beauty but kept all of the dignified, artistic lines of the building intact, the church was rededicated.

The Women's Association of the church also will observe the 125th anniversary of the church at its special guest day luncheon. The speaker for the session will be Dr. Robert Worth Frank, president of McCormick Theological Seminary, who will talk on the subject, "A New Look at the Church."

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Anniversary Of Presbyterian Pioneer Church

5-19-53

Members of the Women's Association of the Central Presbyterian Church at their annual luncheon meeting at the church Monday afternoon, carried out the observance of the 125th anniversary of the church in decorations and theme for the meeting.

Baskets of flowers centered the tables, the one on the speaker's table being a basket of red roses and white gladioli, a gift from J. C. Stimson in honor of his grandfather, the Rev. Archibald Cameron Allen, who was pastor of the church from 1851 through 1853.

Mrs. Cecil I. Elliott and Mrs. Florence Herrick as co-chairman of the luncheon were assisted by representatives of the different circles of the association.

Speaker at the meeting was Dr. Robert Worth Frank, president of McCormick Theological Seminary, and seated at the speaker's table were the four Presbyterian ministers in Terre Haute, all of whom are alumni of McCormick's. The Rev. Willard Lampe, pastor of the church, introduced the speaker and the other three ministers, who were the Rev. John H. Constant, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church; the Rev. R. Louis Alderton, pastor of Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. A. E. Brown.

Mrs. J. C. Stimson gave the invocation and James Hughes, a student at McCormick's Theologi-

cal Seminary, the devotions. The Newcomers Choral Group, directed by Mrs. John T. Miner, sang three songs.

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HARBOR LIGHT.

5-19-53
The Central Presbyterian church today is celebrating its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary. The venerable institution is strong and robust and is still admired for its work for Christianity. Terre Haute was but a hamlet one hundred and twenty-five years ago, a trading post between Ft. Harrison and Ft. Vincennes. Indian trails crossed and re-crossed here and Tecumseh and his Indian forces, which had contended with the French and British for mastery here, made their peace after the triumph of the American pioneers led by Gen. Harrison.

The church membership singularly holds names of substantial builders of this city and this community. The church has been a fortress of the right that should prevail, the accepted community interest needed in desirable community building and radiates that gratification which comes from individual forces united for progress and good citizenship.

The local congregation traces its beginning to May 17, 1828, when the first minister, Rev. David Monfort, assumed his duties. Prior to that time, Presbyterians at Terre Haute had been served by circuit riding missionaries. The congregation worshipped in a frame building on the northwest corner of Fifth and Poplar streets.

First and Second Presbyterian churches united under the name Central Presbyterian church on Dec. 3, 1879, some sixteen years after the church was built at Seventh and Mulberry streets.

Rev. Willard V. Lampe, pastor of the church since 1946, was a navy chaplain three years prior to coming here. A graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary, he was born in Kansas and was raised in St. Louis.

Well known pastors of the church through its history have included Dr. L. O. Richmond, who died last November at Shelbyville. He was minister here from 1910 until 1920 and again from 1932 until 1942.

Rev. John Goodpasture served the congregation from 1942 until Rev. Lampe came.

Rev. Archibald Cameron Allen, who was pastor from 1851 until 1854, was the grandfather of J. C. Stimson, local attorney.

Rev. Blackford Condit, grandfather of Miss Helen Condit, was pastor of the Second or Baldwin Presbyterian church before the merger.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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Dr. Richmond gained a singular position in the community. His life, his generosity, his readiness to be the pastor of any service which deserved such blessing, and his humane and sympathetic interest in individuals having small call on his compassion, drew the community to him.